

ORIGINAL RECORD COPY

OLC 77-0429

4 February 1977

MR

A.	SSCI
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with J.J. Hitchcock, INR/State Department

J.J. Hitchcock, INR/State Department, called to discuss several points:

a. First, he said Marty Gold, Senate Select Committee staff, had been in touch with him regarding the Committee's plans for a Panama inquiry and that he had set up interviews for early next week for State Department negotiations.

b. Second, he said State, FBI and NSA had all received Committee inquiries [redacted] and asked if we had. I replied no, but that it was my understanding that we would be receiving a letter any day.

c. Third, Hitchcock said State officials were concerned that Agency briefings of Congress and press releases often impacted on State's foreign policy responsibilities, and therefore, Hitchcock wondered if it would be possible for us to notify State in advance of our Congressional briefings and press releases. I gave him Andrew Falkiewicz', Assistant to the DCI, name and phone number to contact regarding press releases and referred him to Mr. Cary or [redacted] regarding Congressional briefings. Hitchcock cited a briefing where the Agency gave a figure for the total number of Cuban troops in Angola as an example of a Congressional briefing which caused State problems as the figure was 5,000 different than the figure State was citing. I gave Hitchcock my personal opinion that there

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were just too many briefings for us to coordinate regularly with State and that the Agency scrupulously avoided getting into policy discussions during the briefings. I suggested it might be feasible, however, for the Department to notify us of particular subjects that they feel are highly sensitive, and that perhaps, we could inform them prior to a briefing on these few subjects.



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Assistant Legislative Counsel

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